General Notice Random and Periodic Drawings from the Jury Wheels

Pursuant to 28 USC 1861, all litigants "have the right to grand and petit juries selected at random from a fair cross section of the community." The Court uses a two-step process to select jurors. First, a master jury wheel* is created by selecting names at random from the voter registration list. Then names are randomly drawn periodically from the master jury wheel to receive juror qulification questionnaires. Individuals' answers to these questionnaires determine whether they are legally qualified to serve. The names of qualified persons are put into a second wheel, the qualified jury wheel. As prospective jurors are needed for a specific trial or grand jury, juror summonses are sent to persons randomly selected from the qualified jury wheel. All of these selections are carried out through a properly programmed electronic data processing system for pure randomized selection. The pure randomized process ensures that the mathematical odds of any single name being selected are substantially equal.